

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04823 092321Z

62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01

AID-20 SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 /115 W

----- 049617

R 082121Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 636

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 4823

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS BL

SUBJ: PRESS STRIKE PROTESTS CLOSING OF "NUEVA JORNADA"

1. LA PAZ AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER "NUEVA JORNADA" WAS CLOSED AND SEVERAL OF ITS WORKERS ARRESTED BY POLICE AUGUST 4, APPARENTLY AT THE ORDERS OF MINISTER OF INFORMATION JAIME CABALLERO. IMMEDIATE REACTION FROM NATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RADIO STATIONS WAS DECLARATION OF NATION-WIDE STRIKE OF ALL PRESS AND RADIO PERSONNEL AUGUST 6 AND 7. TO ALL APPEARANCES STRIKE WAS SUCCESSFUL, AT LEAST IN LA PAZ, WHERE NO NEWSPAPERS APPEARED AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 6, AUGUST 7 AND MORNING AUGUST 8. ON BY-PRODUCT OF STRIKE WAS FACT THAT PRESIDENT BANZER'S MAJOR ADDRESS ON OCCASION OF BOLIVIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY, AUGUST 6, RECEIVED NO COVERAGE FROM NATIONAL PRESS AND RADIO PRIOR TO AUGUST 8.

2. OCCUPATION OF "NUEVA JORNADA" APPEARS TO STEM FROM FEUD BETWEEN PAPER AND MININFORMATION, WHO RECENTLY ASSERTED THAT NEWSPAPER'S PRINTING EQUIPMENT HAD BEEN LOANED TO IT BY MINISTRY AND WAS NOW TO BE RECLAIMED. ESCALATION OF RHETORIC ON BOTH SIDES FOLLOWED THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, INCLUDING FRONT-PAGE DEMAND BY "NUEVA JORNADA" THAT CABALLERO SHOULD RESIGN HIS OFFICE. THIS LATTER DEVELOPMENT MAY HAVE PRECIPITATED UNEXPECTED MOVE BY AUTHORITIES AUGUST 4 AGAINST THE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LA PAZ 04823 092321Z

NEWSPAPER.

3. COMMENT: SINCE ASSUMING OFFICE APRIL 23, CABALLERO HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN TWO OTHER DISPUTES WITH THE PRESS OVER PRESS COVERAGE OF SELICH CASE IN MAY AND PUBLICATION OF ALLEGED "YOUNG OFFICERS" DECLARATION IN JULY. SEVERAL SOURCES HAVE EXPRESSED VIEW TO EMBASSY THAT MININFORMATION OVER-REACTED IN THIS CASE, AND WILL BE FORCED BY PRESIDENT BANZER TO BACK DOWN. THIS RESULT SEEMS PARTICULARLY LIKELY IN VIEW OF SOLIDARITY OF LA PAZ PRESS WITH

"NUEVA JORNADA", PLUS DESIRE OF BANZER GOVERNMENT--FOLLOWING RECENT UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY DURING HIS TRIP TO ANDEAN COUNTRIES-- TO AVOID GIVING SUBSTANCE TO CHARGES OF SUPPRESSION OF PRESS FREEDOM IN BOLIVIA.

BREWIN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CENSORSHIP, POLITICAL REPRESSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LAPAZ04823
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BREWIN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730851/aaaablks.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <05-Feb-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS STRIKE PROTESTS CLOSING OF "NUEVA JORNADA"
TAGS: PINS, ELAB, BL, NUEVA JORNADA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005